

Department of Environmental Quality

Notice of Public Meetings for the Development of a TMDL Implementation Plan

Upper Rapidan River Watersheds: Rippin Run, Blue Run, Marsh Run, Beautiful Run, Poplar Run, Unnamed Tributaries (UTs) to the Rapidan River, and the Rapidan River

Madison, Green, Orange, Albemarle Counties, VA

The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality will host public meetings on a water quality improvement process for Rippin Run, Blue Run, Marsh Run, Beautiful Run, Poplar Run, UTs to the Rapidan River, and the Rapidan River on January 28 and 29, 2015.

The meetings will start at 6:00. The meeting on January 28 will be held at the **Town of Orange Public Works Department** located at 235 Warren St., Orange, VA 22960. In case of inclement weather, the meeting will be moved to February 11, 2015 same location. The meeting on January 29 will be held at the **Piedmont Virginia Community College – Eugene Giuseppe Center (Greene County Library Building, 2nd floor)** located at 222 S. Main St, Stanardsville, VA 22973. In case of inclement weather, the meeting will be moved to February 12, 2015 same location.

The waters listed above were identified in Virginia's Water Quality Assessment Integrated Reports as impaired for not supporting the bacteria criteria for recreational uses. The impairments are based on water quality monitoring data indicating exceedances of the bacteria standard.

At this meeting, TMDL findings and the development of the implementation plan will be discussed and citizens will learn how they can be part of the public participation process. DEQ seeks information and involvement of local citizens in developing this plan. After a one-hour public meeting, stakeholders will break into working group sessions to discuss and provide input for the implementation plan.

Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act and §62.1-44.19:7.C of the Code of Virginia require DEQ to develop Total Maximum Daily Loads for pollutants responsible for each impaired water contained in Virginia's 303(d) TMDL Priority List and Report and subsequent Water Quality Assessment Reports. A TMDL is the total amount of a pollutant a water body can contain and still meet water quality standards. To restore water quality, pollutant levels have to be reduced to the TMDL amount. The TMDL report for the Rapidan River, which was approved by EPA on December 5, 2007, and by the State Water Control Board on July 31, 2008, can be found at:

<http://www.deq.virginia.gov/portals/0/DEQ/Water/TMDL/apptmdls/rapprvr/rapidanec.pdf>

The public comment period on materials presented at this meeting will extend from January 29, 2015 to February 27, 2015. For additional information or to submit comments, contact May Sligh at the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, Northern Regional Office, 13901 Crown Court, Woodbridge, VA 22193, by phone (804)450-3802 or e-mail may.sligh@deq.virginia.gov.

*Additional information is also available on the DEQ website at www.deq.virginia.gov/tmdl